

**Montana WIC Program  
eWIC Working Group Conference Call Notes  
March 31, 2016**

**Montana WIC Contacts:**

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**eWIC Project Schedule**

The MT WIC Program is scheduling an **eWIC pilot for February 2017**. The pilot area will include retailers in the following counties: Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Broadwater, Powell, Madison, Silverbow, Deer Lodge, Beaverhead and Meagher.

Following the pilot, **eWIC will rollout statewide in May 2017**.

Solutran is Montana's eWIC processor. They will be **sending out a survey to retailers this summer** to get a better understanding of how to help retailers become eWIC ready.

MT WIC is building a UPC database and will be visiting stores to manually scan barcodes of WIC foods. **Retailers in the pilot area will be scanned in spring/summer 2016**.

**eWIC Training**

Retailers will have different types of systems to accommodate eWIC, so our training materials will be general in nature and each retailer will be responsible for training their own staff on the correct buttons to push and procedures for their unique POS.

We will be updating the WIC Retailer Booklet to include the steps of an eWIC transaction, as well as updating the Retailer Staff Training Guide and the online cashier training.

**eWIC Enablement**

An integrated POS system can process eWIC transactions in addition to all other types of transactions. A non-integrated POS system must process eWIC transactions with a separate, stand-beside unit. Our goal is to have as many retailers integrated for eWIC by the time we

rollout pilot as possible, and are working to upgrade POS systems that currently cannot process integrated eWIC transactions.

If your system cannot currently process integrated eWIC transactions, and you are interested in upgrading, please contact Glade Roos to learn what opportunities may be available.

### **UPC Database**

The UPC database includes every single WIC-authorized food item in Montana and determines what is and is not accepted by the WIC card. We have collected bulk UPC lists from distributors and some retailers, but will also go into stores and manually scan UPC to ensure we have them all. Expect a physical presence of teams of two WIC staff scanning barcodes with small handhelds in your store. Our goal is to scan quickly and during low volume times to minimize any disruptions. WIC's general scanning schedule is:

- Pilot area – Summer 2016 (It is likely we will be able to begin scanning some retailers outside of the pilot area as well during this time period).
- Statewide – January, February, March 2017

If you are a retailer in the pilot area be expecting a call from WIC in early summer to schedule a time to visit the store and scan WIC items.

**Thank you for your participation in this call and please join us next time for updates on the retailer enablement and UPC collection process for Montana eWIC.**

**Next Call: June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 9:30am**

**Call in Number: 1-866-9104857**

**Passcode: 768324**